

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A natural sunscreen composition comprising extract of plant *Hedychium spicatum* and/or plant *Alpinia galanga* and a cosmetically acceptable carrier.
2. The natural sunscreen composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition comprises 0.001% to 20% by weight of the extract of plant *Hedychium spicatum* and/or plant *Alpinia galanga*.
3. The natural sunscreen composition according to claim 1, wherein the cosmetically acceptable carrier comprises by weight; 0.55% of Glyceryl mono stearate, 0.80% of Cetyl alcohol, 0.50% of Cetostearyl alcohol, 2.80% of Heavy liquid paraffin, 1.00% of Silicone oil, 0.68% of Sorbitan stearate, 2.20% of Isostearic acid, 0.50% of Polysorbate 60, 3.50% of Acrylates copolymer, 0.14% of Sodium hydroxide, 3.00% of Glycerin, 0.55% of Titanium dioxide, 0.20% of Methyl paraben, 0.10% of Propyl paraben and Demineralised water.
4. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition according to claim 1, wherein the delivery system comprises creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays as a vehicle for topical application of said sunscreen composition.
5. A natural sunscreen composition comprising cinnamic acid esters isolated and characterized from the extract of plant *Hedychium spicatum* and/or plant *Alpinia galanga* and a cosmetically acceptable carrier.
6. The natural sunscreen composition according to claim 5, wherein the composition comprises cinnamic acid esters individually or as mixtures thereof.
7. The natural sunscreen composition according to claim 5, wherein the composition comprises 0.001% to 12% by weight of cinnamic acid esters.
8. The natural sunscreen composition according to claim 5, wherein the cosmetically acceptable carrier comprises by weight; 0.55% of Glyceryl mono stearate, 0.80% of Cetyl alcohol, 0.50% of Cetostearyl alcohol, 2.80% of Heavy liquid paraffin, 1.00% of Silicone oil, 0.68% of Sorbitan stearate, 2.20% of Isostearic acid, 0.50% of Polysorbate 60, 3.50% of Acrylates copolymer, 0.14% of Sodium hydroxide, 3.00% of Glycerin, 0.55% of

Titanium dioxide, 0.20% of Methyl paraben, 0.10% of Propyl paraben and Demineralised water.

9. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition according to claim 5, wherein the delivery system comprises creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays as a vehicle for topical application of said sunscreen composition.

10. A natural sunscreen composition according to claim 5 comprising 0.001 to 8% by weight of Cinnamic acid esters and a cosmetically acceptable carrier which comprises by weight; 0.25% of Glyceryl monostearate, 6.50% of Stearic acid, 5.50% of Light liquid paraffin, 1.50% of Isopropyl myristate, 1.20% of Cetyl alcohol, 0.80% of Cresmer 1000, 1.20% of Cetostearyl alcohol, 0.60% of Brij 36, 0.20% of Methyl paraben, 0.10% of Propyl paraben, 5.00% of Glycerin, 0.80% of Triethanol amine, Fragrance and Demineralised water.

11. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition according to claim 10 wherein the delivery system comprises creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays as a vehicle for topical application of said sunscreen composition.

12. A natural sunscreen composition according to claim 5 comprising 0.001 to 8% by weight of Cinnamic acid esters and a cosmetically acceptable carrier which comprises by weight; 40% of Sodium lauryl ether sulphate, 1.00% of Cocodiethanolamide, 5.00% of Betaine, 1.00% of Sodium chloride, 0.50% of Silicone emulsion, 0.20% of Methyl paraben, 0.10% of Propyl paraben, Fragrance, Colour and Demineralised water.

13. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition according to claim 12, wherein the delivery system comprises creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays as a vehicle for topical application of said sunscreen composition.

14. A natural sunscreen composition according to claim 5 comprising 0.001 to 8% by weight of Cinnamic acid esters and a cosmetically acceptable carrier which comprises by weight; 35.00% of Sodium lauryl ether sulphate, 1.20% of Carbomer, 5.00% of Betaine, 0.80% of Triethanol amine, 0.50% of Silicone emulsion, 5.00% of Glycerin, 0.20% of Methyl paraben, 0.10% of Propyl paraben, Fragrance and Demineralised water.

15. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition according to claim 14, wherein the delivery system comprises creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays as a vehicle for topical application of said sunscreen composition.

16. A method of producing a natural sunscreen composition, the method comprising:

extracting plant extracts from *Hedychium spicatum* by percolation or hot-soxhalation;

filtering the plant extract, concentrating the plant extract to dryness on a rotatory evaporator under vacuum at optimum temperature and employing the dried mass and a cosmetically acceptable carrier to produce a natural sunscreen composition.

17. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition produced according to the method of claim 16, the delivery system comprising creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays.

18. A method of producing a natural sunscreen composition, the method comprising:

extracting plant extracts from *Alpinia galanga* by percolation or hot-soxhalation;

filtering the plant extract, concentrating the plant extract to dryness on a rotatory evaporator under vacuum at optimum temperature and employing the dried mass and a cosmetically acceptable carrier to produce a natural sunscreen composition.

19. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition produced according to the method of claim 18, the delivery system comprising creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays.

20. A method of producing a natural sunscreen composition, the method comprising extracting plant extracts from *Hedychium spicatum* or *Alpinia galanga* by percolation or hot-soxhalation, filtering the plant extract, purifying the extract by crystallization to obtain pure cinnamic acid esters and employing the pure cinnamic acid

esters thus produced and a cosmetically acceptable carrier to produce a natural sunscreen composition.

21. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition produced according to the method of claim 20, the delivery system comprising creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays.

22. A method of producing a natural sunscreen composition, the method comprising:

- extracting plant extracts from *Hedychium spicatum* or *Alpinia galanga* by solvent extraction using an organic solvent;
- subjecting the resultant extract to purification;
- separating the pure compound;
- characterizing the same as cinnamic acid esters; and
- producing a natural sunscreen composition employing the pure cinnamic acid esters thus produced and a cosmetically acceptable carrier.

23. The method according to claim 22, wherein the organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of petroleum ether, hexane, cyclohexane, benzene, dichloromethane, chloroform, ethyl acetate, acetone, methanol and ethanol.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the organic solvent is used either alone or in combination thereof.

25. A delivery system for topical application, comprising the natural sunscreen composition produced according to the method of claim 23, the delivery system comprising creams, shampoos, gels, lotions, soaps, oils, sticks or sprays.